

2007 Hawaii Legislative Session Disability-Related Bills

(as of May 30, 2007)

The current Legislative session ended on May 3, 2007. Disability-related bills and resolutions that survived the Legislative session are listed below by the subject matter categories. The list includes the bill number, title and brief description. For bill status or to review text of specific bills or resolutions, visit the Capitol web site at [<www.capitol.hawaii.gov>](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov), select the "Bill Status" link and type in the bill number with no space between the letters and the numbers (e.g., hb150).

A few of the bills listed died, but money was included in the budget, HB 500, HD1, SD1, CD1. Once the Legislature passes a bill, it is transmitted or enrolled to the Governor for signature. If the Governor has signed the bill, the act number is noted after the title of the bill. Once resolutions are adopted, certified copies are transmitted to the agencies or individuals noted in the measure. For more information about any of the bills listed, contact Debbie Jackson at the DCAB office at (808) 586-8121 v/tty.

a. Parking for Persons with Disabilities

- HB 277, HD1, SD2– Relating to Fees for Windshield Placards for Persons with Disabilities (Act 77). Any monies collected by the counties for temporary and replacement placards are required to be returned to the State general fund. Effective date is July 1, 2007.

b. Non-discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities/Civil Rights

- SR 7 - Requesting the Office of Elections to Study the Feasibility of Conducting All Elections by Mail.
- SR 137 – Requesting the Governor of the State of Hawaii to Convene a Task Force to Review Policies for State Funded Programs and Services on the Use of Restraints and Seclusion on Adults and Children in Institutional and Noninstitutional Settings.
- HCR 140, HD1/HR 113, HD1 – Requesting the Department of Human Services to Collect Data and Report Statistics Related to Cases of Abuse of Vulnerable Adults.
- HR 49, HD1 – Requesting the Healthcare Association of Hawaii to Examine the Problems of Patients in Acute Care Hospitals Waitlisted for Long-term Care and to Propose Solutions.
- HR 151 – Requesting the Governor to Establish the Office of Language Access.

c. Education

- HB 15, HD2, SD2, CD1 – Relating to Education Establishes the Felix stipend program special fund into which shall be deposited monies received as repayment from students who have breached their contractual agreements under this program. Appropriates funds from the special fund to provide tuition assistance to students for the Felix consent decree recruitment and retention program, or any successor programs, and related costs.

- HB 531, HD3, SD2, CD1 – Relating to Children. Establishes a Hawaii 3-5 transition task force and provides a mechanism to study the feasibility of expanding Hawaii's early intervention section to continue services for children 3 to 5 years of age. Requires the DOH to convene the task force. Requires the University of Hawaii's Center on Disability Studies to serve as the Advisory Committee facilitator and to provide the necessary research, as well as conduct the needs assessment for the feasibility study. Task force will cease to exist upon the end of the 2008 Legislature. Includes an appropriation.
- SCR 17 – Urging the Department of Education to Study the Educational Implications of the Special Needs of Preschool Age Children with Developmental Disabilities.
- SCR 57, HD1 – Requesting the United States Congress to Propose Amendments to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

d. Community-Based Services for Persons with Disabilities - Non-Appropriation

- SB 53 – Relating to Marriage and Family Therapists (Act 38). Includes marriage and family therapy among the mental illness and alcohol and drug dependence benefits required within the hospital and medical coverage offered under accident and sickness insurance policies and similar insurance products.
- SB 820, SD1 – Relating to Developmental Disabilities (Act 40). Extends the repeal date of HRS 333F-2 (individual choice/self sufficiency) from June 30, 2008 to June 30, 2009.
- HB 833, HD2, SD2, CD1 – Relating to Employment. Exempts recipients of social service payments from the scope of employment related laws; defines "recipients of social service payments" as it relates to Chapters 383, 386, 392, and 393, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Requires the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to report on the financial impact and consequences of the employment exclusions for service providers who provide Medicaid home and community-based services for persons with developmental disabilities and mental retardation.
- HB 1007 – Relating to Family Self-Sufficiency (Act 30). Provides that the Department of Human Services shall not consider monies in Escrow Accounts established under the federal Housing and Urban Development Family Self-Sufficiency Program when determining eligibility for assistance or other benefits under Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes.
- HCR 187, HD1 – Requesting the Legislative Reference Bureau to Study Respite Care Policies and Programs in Other States and the Executive Office on Aging to Conduct an Inventory of Respite Care Services in Hawaii.
- HCR 188, HD2 – Requesting the Legislative Reference Bureau to Study Other States' Adult Protective Services and Compare them to Hawaii's Adult Protective Services.
- SR 57, SD1 – Establishing a Special Mental Health Task Force to Study Whether Hawaii Should Provide a Continuum of Mental Health Care for Incarcerated Persons.

- SR 125, SD1 – Requesting the Department of Health to Conduct a Study of Adult Residential Care Homes.
- SR 138, SD1 – Requesting the Governor of the State of Hawaii to Convene a Task Force to Review Policies of Restraints and Seclusion on Adults and Children in Institutional and Noninstitutional Settings.

e. Community-Based Services for Persons with Disabilities – Appropriation

- SB 426, SD2 – Relating to Human Services. Appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to hire staff, upgrade computer system, develop a web site, and operating expenses for an interpreter referral service for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind. [Bill died, but money was placed in HB 500, HD1, SD1, CD1.]
- SB 914, SD2, HD1, CD1 – Relating to Mental Health Issues of Committed Persons. Appropriates funds to the Department of Public Safety to improve mental health services for persons committed to Hawaii prisons. Requires two reports to the Legislature.
- SB 1916, SD2, HD3, CD1 – Relating to Caregivers. Strengthens support of family caregivers by, among other things: extending the joint legislative committee on family caregiving; requiring the joint legislative committee on caregiving to conduct a comprehensive assessment of care recipients' needs and the needs of their family caregivers; requiring the executive office on aging to perform a comprehensive assessment of grandparents raising grandchildren in Hawaii; and appropriating funds to expand services of the kapuna care program, and continue the development of the Aging and Disability Resource Center project.
- HB 206, HD1/SB 815, SD1 – Relating to Developmental Disabilities. Appropriates funds for a coordinator and operating expenses to support a statewide self-advocacy network for individuals with developmental disabilities. [Bills died, but money was placed in HB 500, HD1, SD1, CD1.]
- HB 208, HD1, SD1 – Relating to Developmental Disabilities. Makes an appropriation to fund operations of developmental disabilities domiciliary homes and apartment complexes for persons with developmental disabilities. [Bills died, but money was placed in HB 500, HD1, SD1, CD1.]
- HB 928, HD1, SD2, CD2 – Relating to Social Services. Exempts certain escrow accounts from the financial asset eligibility requirement for public assistance. Increases state supplemental payments for certain domiciliary care. Appropriates funds for homeownership programs.

f. Long Term Care, Medicaid, QUEST

- SB 1004, SD2, HD2, CD1 – Relating to Psychologists. Authorizes prescriptive authority for qualified psychologists who practice at a federally qualified health center.
- SB 1182, SD2, HD1, CD1 – Relating to Needs Allowance (Act 96). Establishes a needs allowance for residents of care homes and long-term care facilities.

- SR 57 – Establishing a Special Mental Health Task Force to Study Whether Hawaii Should Provide a Continuum of Mental Health Care for Incarcerated Persons.
- SR 98, SD1 – Requesting the Department of Human Services to Report to the Legislature Regarding What Impact a Cash and Counseling Program Would have on Medicaid and Adult Services Program.
- HR 114 – Urging the United States Congress to Support Legislation Authorizing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to Negotiate Lower Drug Prices on Behalf of Medicare Beneficiaries.

g. Injury Prevention

- SB 1191, SD2, HD1, CD1 – Relating to Pedestrian Safety. Appropriates funds for pedestrian safety improvements by the State and counties.
- HB 375, HD1, SD2, CD1 – Relating to Pedestrian Right of Way. Clarifies a driver's duty to stop for a pedestrian in a crosswalk. Imposes fines for drivers and pedestrians who fail to comply with the crosswalk law based on the number of previous infractions of the same offense.
- SCR 30/SR 12 - Requesting the State Department of Transportation and the Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu to Cooperate and Coordinate Efforts to Harmonize Walk Signal Lights with the Pedestrian's Right of Way in Crosswalk Law.
- SR 143 – Requesting the Departments of Health and Human Services to Collaborate and Apply for a Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver.
- HR 110 – Requesting a Study of State and County Intersections to Determine Whether Traffic Signals Provide Sufficient Time for Elderly Pedestrians to Cross the Street.

h. Building Codes/Design

- SB 795, SD2, HD1, CD1 – Relating to the Building Code (Act 82). Requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to establish a state building code that includes hurricane resistive standards.

i. Emergency Preparedness

- SB 798, SD3, HD2 – Relating to Disaster Relief (Act 89). Extends for one year the lapse date of emergency disaster relief appropriations made by Act 118, State Legislature of Hawaii 2006.
- SB 1402, SD1, HD1, CD1 – Relating to the Loss Mitigation Grant Fund (Act 80). Appropriates funds out of the loss mitigation grant fund to provide grants for wind resistive devices. Includes residential safe rooms in the definition of "wind resistive devices" under the fund. Makes safe rooms eligible for grants.
- HB 1345, HD2, SD3, CD1 – Making Emergency Appropriation for Natural Disasters (Act 78). Makes emergency appropriations of \$900,000 in general funds to Department of Defense for FY 2006-2007, to cover operational expenses associated with the October 15, 2006, Kiholo Bay earthquake disaster recovery efforts in the Counties of Hawaii, Maui, Kauai, and the City and County of Honolulu. Makes emergency appropriations of \$24,000,000 from the emergency and budget reserve fund to cover the 25% non-federal

cost share for earthquake disaster recovery projects made eligible under the Federal Emergency Management Agency public assistance program, for emergency watershed protection projects under the Natural Resources Conservation Service, upgrading state and county warning systems, repairing and improving irrigation water systems and repairing public school facilities, hospitals, and healthcare facilities; provided that any reimbursements from the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall be returned to the emergency and budget reserve fund. Funds will also be used for structural and non-structural earthquake mitigation projects.

- SR 34 – Urging the Civil Defense Division of the State Department of Defense to Designate a Lead Staff to Address the Needs of Individuals with Disabilities and Special Health Needs.
- HR 223, HD1 – Requesting the Civil Defense Division of the Department of Defense, in Cooperation with the Department of Health, to Begin Necessary Preparations to Establish a Mobile Emergency Hospital Unit in Hawaii.